

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5919

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS USUN 0622

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PT, PO, ID

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR- LETTER FROM PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF EAST TIMOR TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL

1. THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT HAS CIRCULATED THE FOLLOWING
COMMUNICATIONS (S/11986, 17 FEBRUARY 1976) FROM INDONESIA'S
MISSION AND THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR. QUOTE
LETTER DATED 17 FEBRUARY 1976 FROM THE DEPUTY PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO TRANSMIT THE TEXT OF A COMMUNICATION
FROM THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR. I WOULD
BE GRATEFUL IF YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD ARRANGE FOR IT
TO BE CIRCULATED AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

(SIGNED) AUGUST MARPAUNG

AMBASSADOR

DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

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ANNEX

LETTER DATED 13 FEBRUARY 1976 FROM MR. ARNALDO DOS REIS
DE ARAUJO ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

FOLLOWING PORTUGUESE ALLEGATION CONCERNING THE ASSERTEDLY ILLEGAL
VISIT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF INDONESIA, HIS EX-
CELLENCY MR. ADAM MALIK, TO THE TERRITORY AT OUR
INVITATION, THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HAS AGAIN MADE ALLEGATIONS
CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF INDONESIAN VESSELS ON THE SOUTHERN
COAST OF EAST TIMOR. IN VIEW OF THESE ALLEGATIONS,
I WISH ON BEHALF OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR
TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:
INDONESIA HAS BEEN PROVIDING EXTENSIVE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
TO THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR FROM SOME TIME, REFLECTING THE
GREAT SYMPATHY AND DEEP CONCERN THAT INDONESIA HAS FELT FOR
THE SUFFERING OF ITS BROTHERS IN EAST TIMOR. THE SUPPLY OF
THIS AID, WHICH INCLUDED LARGE QUANTITIES OF FOOD, CLOTHING,
MEDICINE, FARMING EQUIPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, HAS
REQUIRED THE USE OF TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION
FACILITIES SUCH AS SHIPS, PLANES AND OTHER VEHICLES.

WHILE MY GOVERNMENT WAS DOING ITS UTMOST TO RESTORE
LIFE TO NORMAL IN THE AREA, ARMED REMNANTS OF THE DISCREDITED
FRETELIN MINORITY WERE MAKING THE COUNTRYSIDE UNSAFE BY
COMMITTING ACTS OF TERROR AND BY STEALING FOOD FROM THE
DESTITUTE FARMERS. IN ORDER TO RETURN PEACE, LAW AND ORDER
TO THE ISLAND, FORCES OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST
TIMOR HAVE CONDUCTED MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS AGAINST THESE
FRETELIN BANDITS IN THE AREA OF SAMA. THEREFORE IT SCARCELY
SEEMED NECESSARY TO NOTE, THAT, WHILE THOSE ACTIONS WERE TAKING
PLACE, THE SAFETY OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE,
MR GUICCIARDI, IN THESE AREAS COULD NOT BE GUARANTEED
BY MY GOVERNMENT. AT PRESENT IF YOUR EXCELLENCY STILL WISHES
TO SEND YOUR EXCELLENCY'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO EAST TIMOR, WE ARE
PREPARED TO WELCOME HIM.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR FINDS THE
PRESENCE OF PORTUGUESE WARSHIPS AND TROOPS IN THE AREA AT THIS
TIME RATHER SURPRISING, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT
THE LAST SEMBALANCE OF PORTUGUESE AUTHORITY FLED EAST
TIMOR MANY MONTHS AGO. ALTHOUGH THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT
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STILL CLAIMS TO BE THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN EAST TIMOR,
IN THE PAST IT HAS CONSISTENTLY FAILED TO DISPLAY ANY
CONCERN WHATSOEVER FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE
STRIFE-TORN TERRITORY. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT IS NOT
SURPRISING THAT THE PEOPLE DO NOT WANT EAST TIMOR TO BE
OCCUPIED ONCE MORE BY A COLONIALIST POWER WHICH REFUSES EVEN
TO ACKNOWLEDGE ITS ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE
WELL-BEING OF THE TERRITORY'S INHABITANTS.

IT IS HIGH TIME FOR THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT A
MORE POSITIVE
AND REALISTIC ATTITUDE AND TO DISPLAY A PROPER RESPECT
FOR THE WISHES OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR WHO HAVE
ALREADY DEMONSTRATED THEIR STRONG DESIRE TO BE REUNITED WITH
THE INDONESIAN PEOPLE IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-
DETERMINATION. THIS VIEW HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO YOUR EXCELLENCY'S
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD DIRECT
THAT THIS CABLE BE
CIRCULATED AS A DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

(SIGNED) ARNALDO DOS REIS DE ARAUJO
ON BEHALF OF THE PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR UNQUOTE
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